

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 EA-09
FRB-01 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-06 SP-02
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1666
US MISSION OECD PARIS IMMEDIATE 60
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E. O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: EINV,OECD, BE
SUBJ: BQDGER CASE AND OECD CONSULTATIONS

REF: 77 BRUSSELS 3147

1. FLEMISH EVENING TELEVISION MARCH 31 GAVE SIGNIFICANT NEWS COVERAGE TO THAT SAME DAY S OECD MEETING IN PARIS CONCERNING BADGER CLOSING IN JANUARY OF ITS ANTWERP OFFICE. PART OF TV COVERAGE WAS AN INTERVIEW IN PARIS WITH BELGIAN STATE SECRETARY FOR FLEMISH ECONOMICS MARK EYSKENS IN WHICH HE DESCRIBED MEETING AS HAVING MADE A BREAKTHROUGH BY INTERPRETING PARAGRAPH SIX OF THE CODE AS MEANING THAN AN ENTIRE MULTI-NATIONAL GROUP IS MORALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF EACH SUBSIDIARY. WHILE BADGER WAS NOT MENTIONED BY NAME IN THESE DISCUSSIONS, HE ADDED, IT WAS VERY MUCH IN THE BACK OF EVERYONE S MIND. THE OECD S ESTABLISHMENT OF TOTAL MORAL RESPONSIBILITY BY THE WHOLE GROUP IS A NEW FACT OF INTERNATIONAL MORAL LAW, EYSKENS CONTINUED, AND DOUBTLESS WILL BE A POINT OF REFERENCE IN FUTURE CASES.

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2. ALL FLEMISH NEWSPAPERS GAVE FULL COVERAGE MORNING OF APRIL FIRST TO THE OECD-BADGER STORY AND ALL PAPERS MADE MUCH OF THE FACT (A) THAT US DELEGATE AT THE TUAC MEETING ON WEDNESDAY HAD ONLY RELUCTANTLY VOTED IN FAVOR OF PUTTING PRESSURE ON BADGER AND, (B) THAT BADGER HAS BEEN FORCED BY PUBLICITY TO AGREE AGAIN TO MEET BELGIAN UNION AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

ON APRIL 5 IN BRUSSELS. THBTEWS STORIES WERE TOPPED WITH
HEADLINES SUCH AS: OECD SLAPS WRIST OF BADGER (HET LAATSTE
NIEUW- CATHOLIC), OECD CONDEMNS BADGER (DE NIEUWE GAZET - LIBERAL)
AND, OECD RULES BADGER HEADQUARTERS MORALLY RESPONSIBLE
(VOLKSGAZET- SOCIALIST).
HEIMANN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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